

# Embassy of the United States of America CONSULAR SECTION

100 Young & Duke Streets, Kingston, Georgetown, Guyana

#### DNA TESTING INFORMATION SHEET

When documentary evidence is insufficient to confirm a relationship that supports a claim to citizenship or visa eligibility, Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) testing is an option. DNA testing is voluntary; all expenses and risks are the responsibility of the parties involved. The Embassy will only accept the results of DNA tests done by a laboratory in the United States accredited by the American Association of Blood Banks (AABB). Only DNA tests done by the Polymerase Chain Reaction-Short Tandem Repeats (PCR-STR) and Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP) methods, using the buccal swab sample collection procedure is acceptable.

#### **Step-by-Step Instructions**

## **STEP 1: Selecting a Laboratory**

The petitioner/ putative parent must choose an AABB Accredited Lab from the list provided on the Internet at <a href="www.aabb.org">www.aabb.org</a>. The petitioner/putative parent must contact the lab directly, and make arrangements for conducting the genetic test, including payment for all tested parties.

The DNA samples for the petitioner/putative parent must be collected at a designated AABB testing site, lab, or clinic in the United States. In the event both parties to be DNA tested are out of the U.S., samples may be collected as specified by the local U.S. Embassy or Consulate. The U.S. laboratory is required to send a test kit for the applicant, instructions, security tape, and a prepaid DHL or Federal Express airway bill, directly to the U.S. Embassy at the address provided below:

Consular Section US Embassy 99/100 Young and Duke Streets, Kingston Georgetown, Guyana

# **Step 2: Appointment for DNA sample collection**

On receipt of the test kit, the Embassy will send the applicant an appointment letter for DNA sample collection. The applicant must present this letter to the panel physician and pay a fee of G\$2,000 for his/her sample collection. The panel physician will issue a receipt for the fees paid. List provided on the Internet at http://georgetown.usembassy.gov/consularpdfs/iv/panel-physicians-list2.pdf.

Revised: June 08, 2010

## **STEP 3: DNA sample collection**

All DNA sample collection will take place in the Consular Section at the U.S. Embassy. The applicant/s must present him/herself at the Embassy on the date and time stated on the DNA appointment letter with the following:

1. His/her passport with a photocopy of the biographic page of the passport.

Please note: Parents applying for a Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA) and/or a US passport for their child born in Guyana, must also present a local passport for the child.

- 2. A passport size photo for each applicant.
- 3. The DNA appointment letter.
- 4. The receipt issued by the panel physician.

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE MISSING, THE SAMPLE/S WILL NOT BE COLLECTED.

# **Step Four: Shipping of DNA Samples**

Following the sample collection, the Embassy will return the testing kit directly to the U.S. laboratory selected by express mail and will ensure that all supporting documents requested accompany the kit.

## **Step 5: Test results**

All test results sent to the Embassy must be sealed with the same type of security tape used when the samples were taken. Please be aware that we do not accept DNA results from applicants or petitioners; only results received directly from the approved AABB laboratory are acceptable. The Embassy has no objection to the applicant/petitioner receiving a copy of the results from the laboratory.

### **Step Six: Notification of Results**

Once the Embassy receives and processes your test results, we will contact you via email or mail. Submitting to testing does not guarantee the issuance of an immigrant visa or Consular Report of Birth Abroad.

Revised: June 08, 2010